

~~Dr. Martin~~

A.413

~~Mr. Morley Parry 419/B.S.~~

(To retain or
dispose of)

Library

8706



Health

of the

URBAN DISTRICT

OF WILLENHALL

for the Year

1961

Annual Report
on the
Health
of the
URBAN DISTRICT
OF WILLENHALL
for the Year
1961

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor C. W. Wolverson.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor H. Rudge.

Councillor J. T. Williams.

Councillor J. Bassett.

Councillor F. V. Magness.

Councillor G. Evans.

Councillor J. Davis.

Councillor D. A. Davies.

Councillor R. Griffiths.

Councillor J. Riley.

Councillor Dr. H. B. Singh.

Councillor E. J. Clarke, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. L. Reid.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County Medical Officer :

R. C. Gubbins, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. E. T. Lowbridge, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(a), (b), (c), (d).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

B. M. G. Roger, M.A.P.H.I.

(a), (b).

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

W. E. Jevons, M.A.P.H.I.

(a)

H. M. Blackshaw, M.A.P.H.I. Commenced 25th May, 1961.

(a)

Senior Pupil Public Health Inspector :

P. Hickman.

Clerical Staff :

Miss E. G. Duffield.

Mrs. M. D. Robotham.

Mrs. K. R. Elmore. Resigned 31st December, 1961.

Qualifications.

- (a) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Public Health Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
- (b) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Meat and Food Inspectors.
- (c) Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for Sanitary Science.
- (d) Diploma of the Royal Society of Health for Smoke Inspectors.

Public Health Department,

Walsall Street,

WILLENHALL,

Staffs.

Telephone number : Willenhall 65611.

Public Health Department,
Walsall Street,
Willenhall,
Staffs.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1961.

In addition to my comments in the text of this Report I would briefly indicate that the year has been notable for three reasons, the first two satisfactory ones, but the third not so satisfactory. These are :—

1. The Infant Mortality Rate—that oft designated index of the state of civilisation of a community—is the lowest ever recorded for the district.
2. It is the first year in the history of this Authority that there have been no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
3. For the first time since 1952 there were three cases of diphtheria notified. In fact, these were the only cases notified within the County. I need hardly say that the three cases (all in one family) had not previously been given protective immunisation. Just to re-emphasise the importance of the protective effect of immunisation I would quote from the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health and indicate that ten years ago, in 1951, there were 118 cases notified within the County, and in 1943 (1941 figures not available) there were 1,141 cases !

I noted in my last year's Report that there had been an increase of double in the number of illegitimate births. You may note that this year the number has continued to increase (from 24 to 28).

Under the energetic and efficient stimulus of your Chief Public Health Inspector the environmental hygiene side of the work of the Department has proceeded apace, and details will be found in Mr. Lowbridge's section of this Report.

It is pleasing to note that we, in Willenhall, can still boast of a long lead to most of the Black Country Authorities in the number of properties covered by Smoke Control Orders.

There is one matter, not strictly a Public Health matter, upon which I should like to comment. Because people have to dwell in an industrial area, must they be supposed to have no aesthetic sense at all? The clearance of sub-standard property in areas zoned for industry has often given industry an opportunity to expand their premises; beautiful plans are submitted for such and passed and what a contrast there sometimes is between the final plans and the final product on the site! Although dumps of fuel and waste material may not come under the Public Health Acts must efficiency be accompanied by untidiness and ugliness?

I would again express my appreciation of, and thanks for, the loyal support and willing assistance of Mr. Lowbridge and the Department staff, and to the Chairman and Members of your Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. GUBBINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	2,834
Population :						
(a) 1951 Census	..	..	..	..	..	30,695
(b) Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1961						32,510
Population density per acre	..	..	..	..		11.47
Rateable Value of district 1/6/61	..	..	..			£393,986
General Rate (1961-62)	..	..	..	..		£1 1s. 0d.
No. of houses on Rate Book 1st June, 1961 :						
Houses	..	..	..	..	..	9,827
Houses and Surgeries	..	..	..	..		10
Houses and Shops	..	..	..	..		259
Houses and Offices	..	..	..	..		10
Houses and Workshops	..	..	..	..		32
Private Hotels and Guest Houses				..		4
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..		83

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1961.

(Figures in brackets indicate 1960 statistics)

Births.

Live Births.

		Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	..	564	274	290
Illegitimate	..	28	14	14
Total	..	592	288	304
Birth Rate per 1,000 population :				18.21
Comparability factor for births :				0.94
Corrected BIRTH RATE :				17.12 (16.77)

Still Births.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	..	15	8	7
Illegitimate	..	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	..	15	8	7
		—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births : 25.34 (20.83)

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population : 0.46

Deaths.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Deaths (all causes) ..	..	292	179	113
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population :	.. ..			8.98
Comparability factor for deaths	.. ..			1.46
Corrected DEATH RATE	.. ..			13.11 (14.79)
Maternal Deaths	.. ..			Nil
MATERNAL DEATH RATE	.. ..			Nil (Nil)

Infant Deaths under one year of age.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	..	10	7	3
Illegitimate	..	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	..	10	7	3
		—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate.

Death rate of infants under one year of age per
1,000 live births 16.89 (27.78)

Infant Deaths under four weeks of age.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	..	7	5	2
Illegitimate	..	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	..	7	5	2
		—	—	—

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age per
1,000 live births 11.82 (20.83)

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The population of Willenhall as estimated by the Registrar-General was 32,510 ; an increase of 230 compared with the mid-year estimate of 32,280 for 1960. The excess of births over deaths for 1961 was 300, compared with 249 in 1960.

Births.

During 1961 there were 592 live births. Of these there were 28 illegitimate births, comprising 4.73% of the total births, compared with 4.17% in 1960, and 2.38% in 1959.

The birth rate per 1,000 population was 18.21, which is an increase on the rate for 1960 which was 17.84. The comparability factor for births is 0.94, which gives a corrected or standardised birth rate of 17.12 which is comparable with a rate of 17.4 for England and Wales.

There were 15 still births in 1961, a percentage of 2.53 of the total births, compared with a percentage of 2.08 in 1960.

The still birth rate expressed per 1,000 total births was 25.34. The rate for England and Wales per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 19.1.

Deaths.

There were 292 deaths in 1961. The death rate was 8.98 per 1,000 population, compared with rates of 10.13 and 9.73 for 1960 and 1959 respectively. Applying the comparability factor of 1.46 for deaths to this crude death rate, a standardised or corrected death rate of 13.11 is obtained, which compares with a rate of 14.79 for 1960 and 12.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths from certain causes.

The last column of the following table shows the number of deaths from certain causes during the year and a comparison is made with corresponding figures for the previous three years :—

		1958	1959	1960	1961
Cardio-Vascular Diseases ..		98	99	120	87
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ..		49	40	39	42
Cancer		62	44	68	55
Bronchitis		20	23	27	25
Pneumonia		15	18	9	19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..		4	4	1	Nil

Principal Causes of Death.

The principal causes of death during 1961 were, again, diseases of the heart and bloodvessels (including vascular lesions of the nervous system), cancer and bronchitis.

Diseases of the Heart and Bloodvessels.

Diseases of the heart and bloodvessels together accounted for 129 deaths, 44.18% of the total deaths, compared with 48.62% of the total deaths in 1960.

Cancer.

Cancer caused 55 deaths compared with 68 in the preceding year. In the ten-year period 1952-1961 deaths from cancer averaged 54 annually. Of these 55 cancer deaths, 10 were due to cancer of the stomach, 17 to cancer of the lung and bronchus (compared with 20 in 1960 and 18 in 1959), four to cancer of the breast, two to cancer of the uterus and 22 to cancer of other sites, the total being approximately 18% of the total deaths.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis caused no deaths during the year, compared with one in 1960.

Deaths from Violent Causes.

There were 20 deaths from violent causes, one of which was due to a motor vehicle accident, 12 to other accidents and seven to suicide. The number of deaths in this category in 1960 was 16.

Age at Death.

Of the total deaths recorded 183 or 62% occurred in persons aged 65 years and over, this compares with last year's rate of 57%.

Infant Mortality.

There were 10 deaths of infants under one year, there being a reduction of six compared with last year's total of 16. There were no deaths of illegitimate infants. The infant mortality rate for the year was 16.89, compared with a rate of 27.78 in 1960 and 21.78 in 1959. This rate of 16.89 compares with a rate of 21.6 for England and Wales.

Of these 10 deaths occurring under one year, seven did not survive beyond the first month of life, the neo-natal mortality rate thus being 11.82, compared with 20.83 in 1960, but the proportion of these neo-natal deaths to the total infant deaths remains the same—approximately three-quarters.

This rate of 11.82 compares with a rate of 15.5 for England and Wales.

Reference to Table IV on page 39 shows the causes of infant deaths at different age periods under one year. The commonest causes of infant deaths were prematurity and atelectasis.

Maternal Mortality.

There were again no maternal deaths in 1961.

SECTION B.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER DISEASES.

There were 698 notifications of infectious disease other than tuberculosis during the year, the general incidence being considerably higher than the previous year when notifications numbered 78.

This increase was due (as expected) to the MEASLES notifications which increased from 19 in 1960 to 653 in 1961.

Whooping Cough.

There was a decrease in these notifications which numbered seven, compared with 40 in the previous year and two in 1959.

Pneumonia.

There were nine notifications of this disease, compared with two in 1960.

Scarlet Fever.

These notifications numbered 7, compared with four in 1960.

Diphtheria.

There were three cases of confirmed diphtheria during the year, these being the first notifications of this disease received within the past nine years.

Other notifications included one case of erysipelas, one case of meningococcal meningitis, three cases of dysentery and 14 cases of food poisoning.

Influenza.

There were seven deaths from this cause during 1961, compared with none in 1960.

Tuberculosis.

At the end of 1961 the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register was as follows :—

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary tuberculosis	..	..	240	167	407
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	..	..	36	33	69

During the year 14 names were removed from the register for the following reasons :—

Recovered	..	..	..	12
Died	..	..	..	1
Left the district	..	..	..	1

There were 14 new cases of tuberculosis in 1961, compared with 17 in 1960 and 16 in 1959. All of these 14 new cases were of the pulmonary form.

In the ten-year period 1952-1961 notifications of tuberculosis averaged 26 annually.

There were no deaths from this cause.

The table on page 41 shows the new cases notified and the deaths from this disease for the past 40-odd years.

SECTION C.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Local " Health Authority " Services.

These are provided by the Staffordshire County Council and comprise the following :—

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services.
7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
8. Domestic Help.
9. Mental Health.

For the purpose of administering the above services, the County is divided into nine " areas " with an Area Medical Officer advising each Area Committee. Willenhall is a constituent authority of No. 9 Area, which also includes the Boroughs of Bilston and Wednesbury, and the Urban Districts of Darlaston and Wednesfield, and has a total population of approximately 156,670. This Local Authority has three representatives on the Area Committee.

1. **Care of Mothers and Young Children.**

Ante-Natal Clinics. There are two ante-natal clinics, one at Walsall Street Clinic on Friday afternoons weekly, and the other at Short Heath Clinic on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday afternoon of each month (when there is a 5th Tuesday).

Infant Welfare Clinics. These are held as follows :—

Walsall Street Clinic—Wednesday afternoons.

Short Heath Clinic —Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

Portobello Clinic —1st and 3rd Thursday afternoon of each month.

Clinics for School Children. Minor ailment clinics are held at the Walsall Street Clinic on Monday and Friday mornings. A doctor attends on Mondays. Such clinics are also held at Short Heath on Friday mornings, a doctor attending alternate weeks. An Eye Clinic is held at the Walsall Street Clinic on Thursday mornings. In addition to these clinics, dental sessions are held at the Short Heath Clinic.

Day Nurseries. There is one Day Nursery in the district at the Memorial Park, with accommodation for fifty children.

2. Midwifery.

At 31st December, 1961, there were four domiciliary midwives employed by the Staffordshire County Council practising in the district. Hospital accommodation is arranged by either the General Practitioners or the Medical Officer attending the ante-natal clinics—on medical grounds ; or by the local Health Visitors—on sociological grounds.

3. Health Visiting.

There were three Health Visitors working in the district at 31st December, 1961. These ladies also attend the various " County " Clinics. Their headquarters are at the Clinic, Walsall Street, Willenhall.

4. Home Nursing.

There are four district nurses operating in the district, the functions of the Willenhall District Nursing Association in respect of home nursing having been taken over by the County Council since 1948.

5. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox is usually carried out by the local General Practitioners. Immunisation of children against diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis, is performed at the Infant Welfare Clinics each week, mostly on children between the ages of three to twelve months old.

Immunisation of school children against diphtheria (the large majority of whom have already been immunised) is carried out at special school sessions, at fairly regular intervals, by County Council Medical Officers. Reinforcing doses are given at the ages of five and ten years at these school sessions.

Vaccination in connection with poliomyelitis is available to persons up to 40 years of age, at specially arranged evening clinics.

6. Ambulance Services.

Ambulance facilities for this area are available at the main Ambulance Station, Richards Street, Darlaston. The telephone number is James Bridge 2591/2, and a 24 hour service is available.

7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

Care and after-care is undertaken by a Social Worker and an Area Welfare Officer, both centred on Wolverhampton. The former attends to such matters as the provision of convalescent home treatment, extra nourishment, clothing, financial help, etc., whilst the latter official is more directly concerned in the care of the aged and infirm, and also works in co-operation with voluntary agencies for the care of the blind, deaf and dumb, for whom there are training facilities and workshops, etc., at Wolverhampton and Walsall. Hostels for the aged are provided by the County Council at Lichfield and Cannock. The basic principle of all these services—i.e., *prevention* of illness—is manifested in the work of the Health Visitors.

8. Domestic Help.

A Home Help Service is available and administered by the Area Medical Officer, 20, Hydes Road, Wednesbury, telephone number Wednesbury 0961/2. The Service is available for cases of illness, confinement, expectant mothers, mentally defective and aged persons. The number of home helps in the "area" at 31st December, 1961, was 99, of whom 36 were resident in Willenhall.

9. Mental Health.

The Area Health Committee maintains a Special Training Centre at Bilston which is available to Willenhall children who are considered ineducable at school. There is also a Practical Training Centre at Shepwell Green, Willenhall, for persons of higher age groups.

Other Health Services are as follows :—

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations required by General Practitioners and by the Public Health Department are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford. Chemical examinations—food, water, etc.—are undertaken by the County Analyst, County Buildings, Stafford.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals within the Urban District, but the following is a list of hospitals available to the inhabitants which, with the exception of the Kingswinford Isolation Hospital, are situated within a distance of three miles from the Urban District :

Infectious Diseases	..	Moxley Isolation Hospital, Wednesbury. (including smallpox). Kingswinford Isolation Hospital.
General	.. ..	Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. General Hospital, Walsall. Manor Hospital, Walsall. Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton.
Maternity	.. ..	Manor Hospital, Walsall. New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton. Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Accident Prevention.

Publicity for the prevention of accidents in the home continues as in previous years by the display of posters in the clinics and elsewhere.

SECTION D.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During the year no action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

SECTION E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking supplies water to the area, which has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examination of samples of water from sources of distribution to the area and from houses in the district have given satisfactory results.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

Summary of Results of Bacteriological Examinations.

Total number of samples taken	Presumptive coli-aerogenes per 100 ml.			
	0	1-2	3-10	Over 10
420	400	6	4	10

Figures are not available giving the proportion of dwelling houses supplied direct from the mains, as apart from those supplied by standpipes.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The following developments have occurred during 1961 in connection with main drainage :—

- (a) Laying of the Lodge Farm surface water culvert from Bentley Lane to just south of the Short Heath railway line.
- (b) The Council propose to connect four properties in Pool Hayes Lane, at present on cesspools, to the public sewer.
- (c) The detailed work for the combined sewerage scheme connecting Bilston and Willenhall Sewage Works is proceeding.

Health in Factories.

The return made on Form 572 in respect of Part I and VIII of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948, is reproduced at the back of this report.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

Figures giving details as to the number of dwellings built and completed by the Local Authority during the year, etc., are not available.

The number of houses completed by private persons was 322.

SECTION G.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Details of the work done during the year in connection with Meat and Other Foods is given in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Food Poisoning.

There were 14 notifications of food poisoning during the year :—

(a)	Total number of outbreaks	..	3
(b)	Number of cases	.. ..	14
(c)	Number of deaths	.. ..	Nil
(d)	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks attributable to each.		Salmonella bovis morbificans. Salmonella typhi- murium.
(e)	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food.		? chicken.

One of the above cases occurred in a child who was taken ill whilst away on holiday. Notification was received too late for any adequate food investigations to be completed.

Two other cases occurred after a wedding reception had been held. The suspected food was chicken.

The other 11 cases occurred during an outbreak in the canteen of a factory in a neighbouring Local Authority.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Walsall Street,
Willenhall,
Staffs.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

It is with pleasure that I present my fourteenth annual report.

In this foreword it is usual to refer only briefly to any outstanding achievements in the year's work and to rely upon the pages which follow to indicate in more detail the achievements—or setbacks—of the year.

I realise that the work of the Public Health Inspectors can be made or marred by the Health Committee and I first pay tribute to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the enlightened and encouraging way in which they view the responsibilities which are undertaken by a Health Department.

It can be said that the heavy programme of slum clearance which was commenced at the end of the war, has been relentlessly pursued. Throughout, the limiting factor has been the completion of new houses. As will be seen under "Housing," page 20, during the period from 1947 to the end of 1961, 707 houses have been demolished and a further 268 houses are void awaiting demolition.

A reference to an annual report of 1936 showed that there were 13 slaughterhouses in use then, whereas only four are now used and there are indications that this number will be further reduced when the Appointed Date by which slaughterhouses must comply with new regulations comes into operation. A 100% inspection of meat slaughtered was again ensured. There has been a marked decrease in the extent of bovine tuberculosis in recent years.

Progress continues with the reduction of air pollution—approximately one quarter of the premises are now covered by smoke control areas. The policy of the Council has continued in the making of orders on new estate development and making up the leeway in the northern part of the district. I am convinced that this is a wise plan of campaign for the present as slum clearance and redevelopment is gathering momentum in and around the town centre as well as considerable reshuffling on the part of industry.

My thanks are due, in addition to Members of the Council, to officials of other departments, to the Medical Officer of Health and all members of the Health Department. Environmental health is dependent upon team work.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

During the year the Council continued its slum clearance programme. The start of the year marked the commencement of the second five year programme. The first five year programme which began in 1955, provided for the demolition of 650 houses. As far as the Health Department's part of the work is concerned 726 houses were represented in that period. The current programme totals 904 houses to be demolished.

As will be seen from the Table overleaf, the Council has been doing slum clearance since the end of the war. From this Table it will be seen that 707 houses have actually been demolished from the commencement of 1947 to date. Families from 975 houses have been rehoused, thus leaving at the end of the year 268 houses which are void and awaiting demolition. This apparently high figure of void houses arises from the fact that one or two families are left in a row of houses and, because of one or more reasons, re-housing of these families has not yet been possible. The Housing Management Committee adopt a sympathetic attitude in re-housing tenants from unfit houses and, in addition to ensuring that the new accommodation is adequate for the needs of the family, the wishes of the occupants in the choice of the locality to which they wish to go are borne in mind. As will be gathered, slum clearance entails dealing with human beings as well as bricks and mortar—mass production methods are seldom applicable.

Year	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	Total
Demolition Orders made ..	5	6	9	17	12	21	60	40	15	39	13	24	16	19	9	305
Closing Orders made ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	7	1	1	8	18	12	15	6	72
Undertakings	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	10	29	18	17	6	16	100
Clearance Areas	—	—	—	17	—	—	46	—	—	114	19	47	88	81	103	515
Slum Clearance rehousing :																
Council-owned ..	—	—	—	—	—	9	42	8	7	11	17	2	—	15	16	127
Private	7	27	14	13	28	35	40	30	29	38	97	82	58	144	206	848
Demolished	6	46	7	8	32	18	70	53	34	24	25	114	48	64	158	707
Houses built :																
Council	62	130	72	60	176	207	227	165	123	95	261	95	72	201	—	—
Private	—	—	12	12	13	31	28	64	62	76	112	12	42	346	322	1132

Action during the year with regard to the removal of unfit houses was as follows :—

	<i>Houses</i>
Demolition Orders made	9
Closing Orders made	6
Undertakings signed by owners in lieu of Demolition or Closing Orders	16
Clearance Orders confirmed by Ministry	103
Number of privately owned houses which were subject to Demolition, Closure or Clearance Orders and the tenants re-housed	206
Number of Council-owned houses which were closed and the tenants re-housed	16
Dwelling houses demolished	158
Persons displaced and re-housed	726

Clearance Areas which were confirmed during the year referred to in the above table, were at Spring Bank (No. 2), Bloxwich Road South, Railway Street, Hall Street and John Street.

During the year representations were made concerning Clearance Areas at :—

Doctors Piece No. 1	5
Leve Lane No. 1	5
New Road No. 1	10
New Road No. 2	71
Wednesfield Road No. 1	5
Bloxwich Road South No. 4	5
Bloxwich Road South No. 5	24
Bloxwich Road South No. 6	3
Walsall Road No. 1	2
Sands Beds No. 2	7
Shepwell Green No. 1	25
Field Street No. 1	5
Clothier Street No. 1	4
Clothier Street No. 2	5

During the past year the Council continued to allocate 75% of Council houses for slum clearance. Previous to this the Council allocated 25% from 1948 to September, 1955, and from then to November, 1957, the allocation was 50%.

Rent Act, 1957.

The following is a statement of action taken during the years 1957 to 1961 :—

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Applications from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair	63	42	21	4	5
Notices of proposal to issue Certificates of Disrepair ..	48	52	21	4	3
Refusals	1	—	—	—	—
Withdrawn	2	2	—	—	—
Undertakings to carry out repairs received from land lords	12	31	13	1	1
Certificates issued ..	21	38	8	3	2

Improvement Grants.

Standard Grants.

During the year, work was carried out on eight houses as against six houses the previous year, under the Standard Grant system. These grants, which were introduced under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, are an encouragement to owners and tenants to see that soundly constructed houses are provided with the following amenities :—

- (a) A fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (b) A wash-hand basin.
- (c) A hot water supply.
- (d) A water closet in or contiguous to the building.
- (e) Satisfactory facilities for storing food.

The owner is entitled to a grant not exceeding £155 if he has to provide all of the above amenities. If there is already a bath or shower in a bathroom the amount is reduced by £25 ; by £5 for a wash hand basin ; by £40 for a water closet ; by £75 for a hot water supply and by £10 for a food store.

There are many houses in the district which can be improved by the provision of these amenities. It should be noted that there must be agreement by the owner and the tenant to the improvement and whilst the Council is anxious to give encouragement to the improvement of property it has no authority to compel an owner to make the improvements.

Discretionary Grants.

These grants, like standard grants, are aimed at helping owners to improve houses to a good standard or to convert into flats of the same standard a large house which may be too big for a single family.

To qualify for a discretionary grant a dwelling must after improvement or conversion be :—

- (i) In a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (ii) Have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- (iii) Have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on in the dwelling.
- (iv) Provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- (v) Have an internal water closet if practicable, otherwise a readily accessible outside water closet.
- (vi) Have a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (vii) Provided with a sink, or sinks, and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water.
- (viii) Have a proper drainage system.
- (ix) Provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (x) Provided with adequate facilities for heating.
- (xi) Have satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food ; and
- (xii) Have proper provision for storing fuel (where required).

The number of grants so far paid for work completed is as follows :—

Discretionary Grants	..	..	13
Standard Grants	..	..	14

Houses let-in Lodgings and Common Lodging Houses.

The number of large older houses which are being occupied by more than one family is increasing and as reported last year, the lack of facilities and overcrowding frequently cause concern. Legislation dealing specifically with unsatisfactory conditions in these premises will be welcome.

There are no registered common lodging houses in the district.

Intimations and Abatement Notices served.

During the year, 156 Intimations were served for defects listed in Table X. It was necessary to serve 24 Abatement Notices following non-compliance with Intimations.

93 notices were served in connection with works of adaptation in Smoke Control Areas.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The Thresh Steam Disinfector situated at the Sewage Works was in use on 13 days during the year to steam disinfect bedding, in conjunction with the treatment of furniture by Hydrogen Cyanide before the removal of 26 families to Council houses.

The treatment of furniture and effects with H.C.N. is carried out by a private company, whilst the bedding from the house from which the furniture is removed is steam disinfested. The operation of the disinfection and disinfestation service as well as the rodent service and the spraying of houses and other premises for vermin, is carried out by two workmen attached to the Department.

During the year, 6 private and 31 Council houses were treated by the Department with insecticide to destroy vermin including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, ants, mites, etc. The corresponding number of premises treated during the previous year were 13 private and 28 Council houses.

Infestation of houses with bugs and fleas is very much less than was met with years ago. This is due to a large extent to the availability of more effective insecticides. The assistance of the Department is often sought with regard to woodworm, ants, crickets, cockroaches and garden pests.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.

The district has been visited from time to time by van dwellers of the nomad type. The sites which have been visited during the year have been—Portobello, Bridge Street, Bentley Lane—three sites; a building site in course of development at Broad Lane and Pool Hayes Lane; Darlaston Lane; Bilston Road; Rose Hill; Moose Lane.

During the year we have continued to be visited by itinerant van dwellers. 37 letters have been sent to occupiers of unlicensed caravans during the year.

There are no large licensed caravan sites in the district, during the year there was however one licence issued in respect of one caravan on an individual site.

FOOD PREMISES.

As in the previous year slaughterhouses as follows were licensed :—

- 3, Fletchers Lane.
- 134, Bloxwich Road South.
- 119, High Road.
- 2, High Street, Portobello.

The slaughterhouse at No. 2, High Street is situated in a redevelopment area and the licence had previously been issued on the understanding that slaughtering would cease when the site was required for other purposes. Slaughtering ceased at the end of March.

As reported last year the Council have carried out the inspections and prepared a report upon the slaughterhouses with a view to bringing them up to the standard required under The Slaughterhouses Hygiene Regulations, 1958, and The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958. July 1st, 1962, is the appointed day by which improvements must be carried out.

Meat Inspection.

The improvement in the standard of hygiene in slaughterhouses which is the aim of the regulations which should, when all the slaughterhouses throughout the country have been improved, bring about a reduction in food infections.

As distinct from visits to premises to ensure that food hygiene regulations are being complied with, there were 863 visits to slaughterhouses to ensure that meat being slaughtered is fit for human consumption. To ensure 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered overtime sometimes had to be worked. The number of animals slaughtered was :—

633 Cattle—excluding cows.
18 Cows.
17 Calves.
5,007 Sheep.
1,418 Pigs.

It is of interest to point to the decline in the incidence of tuberculosis in meat since the last war. In 1954, which was the year in which slaughtering was decontrolled, tuberculosis in cattle excluding cows was 2.97% and in cows 40%, in pigs it was 2.85%. Last year no tuberculosis was detected in cattle including cows and only 1.55% of pigs were infected.

The quantity of meat surrendered at the slaughterhouses as being unfit for human consumption was :—

8 cwts. 0 qrs. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
as against
8 cwts. 0 qrs. 20 lbs. during the previous year.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

This Act, which consolidated previous legislation provides for the humane slaughter of animals. The Act requires persons slaughtering animals to hold a licence expiring yearly. Licences are required to specify the kinds of animals which may be slaughtered or stunned and the types of instruments which may be used for the purpose. A licence may not be granted to a person under the age of eighteen years. A local authority may revoke a licence if a person is not a fit and proper person to hold it.

Any pig exceeding twelve weeks in age, whether slaughtered inside or outside a slaughterhouse, must be slaughtered by humane methods.

There are 20 slaughtermen now licensed.

Inspection of Other Foods.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Steady progress continues to be made in the improvement of hygienic standards of food premises within the district. The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, have now been in operation for a year and are a consolidation and improvement of the 1955-1957 Regulations.

The principal changes affecting food premises under the new regulations relate to the cleansing of equipment and utensils used in a food room. This essential operation is now covered by the new regulations and is afforded the same protection as a room in which food is actually prepared.

Other important changes include the modification in certain respects of the regulations dealing with temperatures of food in catering premises and an alteration has been made in the legislation dealing with transport of offal.

It has been for a long time considered by this Department that however much attention is paid to hygienic detail in the construction of premises, a single act of carelessness or lack of thought on the part of the food handler whilst preparing or handling food, can destroy the efforts of other food handlers who have taken scrupulous care with that particular commodity.

In this respect alone any explanation of the regulations to food handlers by the Inspectors improves the general hygienic standard of the food premises, although unfortunately this improvement is not as apparent to the public as the provision of a new tiled wall or refrigerated food counter in a shop.

It has not been necessary during the past year to seek legal proceedings in order to ensure compliance with these regulations.

Among the matters involving contamination which were dealt with were the following :—

Wasp in iced drink : Purchased in Somerset by returning holidaymaker. Bottling premises of Somerset firm inspected by local authority concerned. Insect proofing of plant overhauled.

Matchstick in loaf of bread : Not possible to ascertain if matchstick had been inserted into bread whilst on customer's doorstep.

Stale cake tasting of paraffin : Bad management. Shortly after this incident the shopkeeper concerned closed business due to illhealth.

Broken needle in cooked meat (pressed chawl) : Ascertained that contamination did not occur at manufacturers. Needle was probably present in pigs feeding stuff and penetrated flesh whilst the animal was alive.

Below are particulars of improvements effected in premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955/1960, during the year :

<i>Improvements.</i>	<i>Premises Affected</i>
New cutting boards provided	5
Preparation tables or counters covered with an impervious material	8
Walls redecorated or repaired	7
Ceilings redecorated or repaired	8
Floors renewed or repaired	2
Wash hand basins provided	12
Hot water supply (provision of)	8
Hot water supply (repairs)	2
First aid kits supplied or renewed	10
Provision made for staff clothing	3
Additional lighting provided	1
Miscellaneous improvements	31

Ice Cream.

The results of samples of Ice-Cream taken during the year were again generally satisfactory. Only two samples fell into Grade 4 and none into Grade 3, whilst three were placed in Grade 2. Forty-nine samples were taken.

The improvement since the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations came into operation is evident from an examination of the following table :—

		<i>Grade.</i>				
		1	2	3	4	
1948—	No. of samples taken—	85	27	11	19	28
1949—	„	128	67	29	17	15
1950—	„	190	116	38	21	15
1951—	„	89	48	27	5	9
1952—	„	91	49	32	6	4
1953—	„	86	61	22	2	1
1954—	„	78	74	2	1	1
1955—	„	49	46	2	0	1
1956—	„	85	79	4	1	1
1957—	„	77	68	2	1	6
1958—	„	68	59	5	0	4
1959—	„	89	84	3	1	1
1960—	„	98	90	3	4	1
1961—	„	49	44	3	0	2

<i>Provisional Gradings.</i>				<i>Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue Test.</i>
1	..	..	..	4 hours or more.
2	..	..	..	2½ to 4 hours.
3	..	..	..	½ to 2 hours.
4	..	..	..	0 hours.

Grades 1 and 2 are considered satisfactory and Grades 3 and 4 unsatisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

During the year ten waste water closets were converted with financial assistance from the Council to the owners. This assistance amounts to about half the cost and payment was first commenced by the Council towards the end of 1959. The Council's policy is to make a contribution towards waste water closets which are situated in houses which are not scheduled for demolition.

The following table shows the progress made in the abolition of this type of closet :—

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
43	76	101	92	59	67	17
1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
39	13	23	12	7	30	10

AIR POLLUTION.

The Council continued its policy of placing a smoke control order upon both new council and private estates as well as making orders on existing premises in order to cover the whole of the district.

The following is the record of progress to the end of the year :

<i>No. of S.C.A.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Date of</i>
		<i>premises</i>	<i>coming into</i>
			<i>operation.</i>
Willenhall No. 1	New Invention	420	1.10.58
„ No. 2	High Street	54	1.10.59
„ No. 3	Clarkes Lane	42	1.10.59
„ No. 4	Greader Street	28	1.10.59
„ No. 5	Wood Lane	523	1.10.59
„ No. 6	Lichfield Road	500	1.1.60
„ No. 7	Pooles Lane	121	1.1.62
„ No. 8	Summer Hayes	192	1.9.61
„ No. 9	Straight Road	72	1.9.61
„ No. 10	Birchfield Road	83	1.9.62
„ No. 11	Bloxwich Road South ..	28	1.1.63
„ No. 12	Summer Hayes		
	Phases III and IV	340	1.9.62
„ No. 13	Vaughan Park	69	1.9.62
„ No. 14	Mill Lane	150	1.4.63
	(Not yet confirmed)		
„ No. 15	Bloxwich Road North ..	450	1.6.64
	(Not yet confirmed)		(probable)

New Furnaces.

Under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, manufacturers are required to notify the installation of new furnaces—six such notifications were received.

No applications were received during the year to install furnaces in accordance with plans and specifications under Section 3 (2) of the Clean Air Act. Some industrialists have continued to make progress to reduce pollution. Only a little more than a year now remains in which they can apply for certificates of exemption, as certificates cannot be renewed after 5th July, 1963. Between now and then industrialists have to ensure that furnaces are altered or equipped to comply with the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958.

As reported last year there is room for improvement in the emission of grit and dust particularly from foundry cupolas.

A welcome improvement was made at a foundry in St. Anne's Road, in that a wet type of grit and dust arrestor was fitted to a cupola. The appreciation of the Council was demonstrated by a visit from the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mrs. L. Reid and also members of the Council. Further encouragement was given to other industrialists by publicity on B.B.C. television and by articles in the press.

Further installations of wet arrestors which are regarded as complying with the Clean Air Act will benefit the surroundings of the foundries and people who live near them.

Exemption Certificates.

One Certificate was granted during the year.

Legal Proceedings.

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year, but 12 warnings were given to householders where smoke was emitted in Smoke Control Areas. A warning is usually issued for the first offence and proceedings instituted for a further infringement.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

The Council have, in conjunction with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, continued to operate atmospheric pollution apparatus. Ten lead peroxide gauges are situated in various parts of the district. A deposit gauge is installed on the roof at the rear of the Gas Offices, Market Place, one is also sited at the works of Messrs. J. Harper & Co. Ltd., and at the Comprehensive School and 19, Rugeley Avenue, New Invention. A lead peroxide gauge and a daily volumetric apparatus are also provided by Messrs. J. Harper at their works.

The Council again thank Messrs. J. Harper & Co. Ltd., for their continued practical assistance in the analysis of the atmospheric pollution instruments. The Council is also grateful to the Comprehensive School for their assistance in the analysis of the gauge on their site.

The deposit gauge at 19, Rugeley Avenue is analysed by the Public Analyst.

Gauge Readings.

The following are readings of the gauges in the Market Place and Clarkes Lane for eleven completed years :—

		<i>Average total soluble and insoluble matter in tons per square mile.</i>	
		<i>Market Place.</i>	<i>Clarkes Lane</i>
1950	.. ..	31.21	33.55 per month
1951		27.39	31.265
1952		22.64	24.29
1953	.. ..	21.74	16.53
1954	.. ..	20.08	15.73
1955	.. ..	19.536	17.48
1956	.. ..	17.72	13.245
1957	.. ..	15.425	13.046
1958	.. ..	20.179	21.305
1959	.. ..	23.88	20.04
1960	.. ..	18.59	15.61
1961	.. ..	16.407	13.754

FACTORIES.

During the year there were 377 inspections of factories and 21 notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. There are 315 factories in the district. A wide variety of articles are manufactured in the district including locks, drop forgings, brass and malleable iron castings.

There are four outworkers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act, which came into operation in April, 1952, aims at securing that all animals, birds, and fishes, shall be kept in suitable premises, that they shall be properly fed, that they shall not be sold at too early an age, that precautions shall be taken to prevent the spread of disease, and that suitable steps will be taken to prevent injury in the case of fire.

The Council have registered one shop during the year.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There do not appear to be any premises for the manufacture of furniture, bedding, toys, etc. (in which filling is used), neither are there premises where filling is manufactured. There are, therefore, no premises subject to registration or annual licensing. There are eight premises concerned with the furniture trade where filling is used or sold.

WATER SUPPLY.

All the houses in the district are supplied with a piped water supply. Although all the houses have a piped water supply available not all have water laid to the inside of the houses. Supplies in some instances are laid to shared washhouses. In these cases the houses are scheduled for action by demolition or clearance area provisions of the Housing Acts.

Samples were taken and submitted for analysis by the Health Department. These were satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS.

Samples were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination during the swimming season, from the Public Baths. These were satisfactory. No complaint was received of the water from those using the baths.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Two men continue as previously, to carry out rodent work as well as disinfestation and disinfection duties. Prompt attention is given to complaints. The treatment of dwelling houses for rats and mice has continued free of charge. The treatment of business premises is carried out after the proprietor has agreed to pay the cost of time and materials. Some concerns engage private firms who undertake routine treatment as well as treatment upon complaint.

“ Warfarin ” bait has continued to be used on dwellings and business premises. With this bait there is no necessity for pre-baiting and the risk on bait being accidentally taken by human beings is negligible. In damp conditions, e.g., sewers and the River Tame, arsenic and zinc are used. Cymag (hydrocyanic gas) is used particularly at one premises out of doors and adjoining a factory where animal feeding stuffs are processed.

A summary of the work carried out is given below, whilst a detailed report is given at the end of the report.

All premises.

			12 months to 31.12.60	12 months to 31.12.61
Inspections	{ Notified	.. ..	236	151
	{ Surveys	.. ..	378	455
Infested with	{ Rats	.. ..	167	152
	{ Mice	.. ..	83	61
Revisits	.. ..	.. ..	1,290	1,221
Prebait laid for rats	.. ..	.. ..	—	823
Poison bait takes	.. ..	.. ..	1,314	801
Poison baits laid for mice	.. ..	.. ..	1,754	1,407

OFFENSIVE TRADE PREMISES.

Large offensive trade premises in which waste meat is converted into animal feeding stuff and fertiliser have given rise to complaints of smell, not only in the immediate vicinity of the works, but also at distances of a half or even a mile away. Strong representations were made by the Council to the Company and I am able to say that during the year under review a considerable improvement was evident. Considerable expense has been incurred by the Company in an attempt to improve conditions inside the factory together with connecting the premises to a sewer some distance away which is situated in Bilston.

Representations were made to the Company also during the year regarding the emission of smoke from two Lancashire boilers. By the end of the year arrangements had been made to replace one boiler with an economic boiler equipped with automatic means of stoking.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

This Act, which was passed during 1960 makes noise and vibration a statutory nuisance, subject to certain provisions.

In any proceedings in respect of noise and vibration caused in the course of a trade or business it is a defence for the defendant to prove that the best practicable means have been used for preventing and counteracting the effect of noise or vibration.

The Council previously had similar powers under Section 51 of the Willenhall Urban District Council Act, 1939.

The following are examples of nuisances reported and investigated during the year :—

- (i) “ Whine ” of electric motor and passage of air through ducting at factory. Complaints by residents of noise at night. Noise reduced by about half by eliminating some night work. Consultants have been called in and the possibility of reducing noise further is being explored.
- (ii) Noise caused by grinding off welds to fabricated structures. Work was carried on in contravention of planning permission. Noise abated after visits by Public Health and Building Inspectors.
- (iii) Complaint of nuisance from power presses. Presses mounted on rubber and not fixed to concrete. Works carried out by verbal agreement with management. Noise and vibration now negligible outside factory.
- (iv) Noise from hammers in drop forging. Hammers 5 to 50 cwts. in weight. No known remedy other than siting of factory relative to houses to reduce noise. Possible placing of hammers on sound reducing pads or cushions needs further investigation.
- (v) Shaking or rolling barrels. These barrels are loaded with metal castings and rotation of the barrels cleans the castings. An improvement was effected by Public Health Inspector visiting works and sending a letter to offending manufacturer.

Table I.
BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1961.

					WILLENHALL	ENGLAND AND WALES
					Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
Births						
Live Births... ..					17.12	17.4
Still Births					0.46	19.1 (a)
Deaths						
All Causes					13.11	12.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid					—	
Whooping Cough					—	
Diphtheria					—	
Tuberculosis					—	
Influenza					0.22	
Smallpox					—	
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)					—	
Pneumonia					0.58	
Notifications (Corrected) Case Rates						
Typhoid Fever					—	
Paratyphoid Fever					—	
Meningococcal Infection					0.03	
Scarlet Fever					0.22	
Whooping Cough					0.22	
Diphtheria					0.09	
Erysipelas					0.03	
Smallpox					—	
Measles					20.09	
Pneumonia					0.28	
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)						
Paralytic					—	
Non-Paralytic					—	
Food Poisoning					0.43	
Puerperal Pyrexia					—	
Tuberculosis :—Respiratory					0.43	
Meninges and C.N.S.					—	
Other					—	
					Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
Deaths						
All causes under 1 year of age					16.89	21.6 (b)
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age					5.07	
					Maternal Mortality in England and Wales. Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	
Maternal causes, excluding abortion					—	0.27
Due to Abortion					—	0.07
Total Maternal Mortality					—	0.33

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) per 1,000 related live births.

Table II.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN WILLENHALL URBAN DISTRICT
DURING 1961.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

Causes of Death.	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory System	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Other	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	—	—	—
Cancer of Stomach	6	4	10
Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	16	1	17
Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
Cancer of Uterus	—	2	2
Cancer all other sites	13	9	22
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	1
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .. .	28	14	42
Heart Diseases	39	36	75
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	3	9	12
Influenza	7	—	7
Pneumonia	10	9	19
Bronchitis	23	2	25
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	—	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	2	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	4	1	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	1	1
All other Accidents	5	7	12
Suicide	2	5	7
Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
All Other Causes	12	5	17
All Causes	179	113	292

Table III.
 QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF DEATHS ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group		1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Total		Percentage
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year	..	2	—	4	2	1	—	—	1	7	3	3.34
1— 5 years ..	..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1.0
5—10 „ ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 „ ..	..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	1.0
15—25 „ ..	..	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	1.0
25—35 „ ..	..	1	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	4	2	2.01
35—45 „ ..	..	2	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	4	4	2.68
45—55 „ ..	..	6	—	2	4	6	1	7	3	21	8	9.7
55—65 „ ..	..	10	6	8	1	10	3	15	1	43	11	18.06
65—80 „ ..	..	27	11	17	9	13	12	15	19	72	51	41.14
80 years and over	..	10	8	6	11	3	6	5	11	24	36	20.07
Total	..	59	27	39	31	36	24	47	36	181	118	

Table IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1961.

Cause of Deaths	Under 1 day	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total deaths under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Atelectasis ..	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Asphyxia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prematurity ..	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Abnormalities ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Anoxia ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total ..	4	2	—	—	1	7	—	3	—	—	10

Table V
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1961 (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total	Age Groups—Years											65 & over	Not known
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—65		
Scarlet Fever ..	7	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	3	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Measles ..	653	36	46	97	87	78	289	13	3	4	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	7	2	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	14	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	10
Total ..	698	38	47	100	88	79	302	14	4	4	2	9	1	10

Table VI.
TUBERCULOSIS.

in Willenhall (including the former Short Heath U.D.) showing
the new cases notified and the deaths each year since the commence-
ment of compulsory notification.

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1912	85	—	19	1
1913	87	24	22	13
1914	66	22	21	13
1915	55	11	13	12
1916	65	13	23	11
1917	71	18	28	6
1918	56	8	44	4
1919	29	6	20	7
1920	29	6	14	4
1921	24	—	24	2
1922	55	15	34	7
1923	45	12	30	9
1924	19	5	27	5
1925	67	14	25	10
1926	71	11	24	5
1927	25	12	25	4
1928	39	12	17	3
1929	40	9	34	3
1930	42	3	29	3
1931	36	5	27	1
1932	36	3	16	6
1933	41	11	26	4
1934	45	5	14	5
1935	33	9	25	5
1936	47	5	14	3
1937	44	8	25	6
1938	45	8	22	6
1939	30	7	20	3
1940	40	5	24	3
1941	40	9	25	9
1942	38	7	23	—
1943	49	12	18	3
1944	42	10	19	3
1945	30	4	25	—
1946	35	9	20	1
1947	40	9	20	7
1948	41	3	25	3
1949	34	2	11	—
1950	31	1	12	—
1951	34	3	10	—
1952	32	1	8	2
1953	47	3	9	—
1954	36	1	4	—
1955	26	1	1	—
1956	19	3	4	—
1957	25	2	2	—
1958	17	2	4	—
1959	16	—	4	—
1960	17	—	1	—
1961	14	—	—	—

Table VII—INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED FROM 1951—1961.

Disease	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	42	32	14	35	11	8	7	11	6	4	7
Diphtheria	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	29	34	12	28	22	11	12	16	15	2	9
Erysipelas	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	2	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	3	1	6	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	1	—	1	2	2	3	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	239	134	381	21	355	8	372	68	383	19	653
Whooping Cough	58	74	102	15	7	101	20	2	2	40	7
Malaria	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	4	4	14
Total	386	283	515	107	402	135	415	104	413	78	698

Table VIII

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959—ANNUAL REPORT.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	315	377	21	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	315	377	21	—

Table VIII (*continued*).

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	21	19	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	21	19	—	2	—

Table IX.

**SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL ROUTINE VISITS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.**

Complaints, requests for visits of Inspectors made to the							
Health Department	2,484						
Primary Inspection of Dwelling Houses	1,514						
Revisits	1,176						
Water supply	4						
Drainage	164						
Premises where Pigs and other animals are kept	6						
Offensive Trades	105						
Tents, Vans and Sheds	190						
Factories and Workshops	378						
Smoke Observations	10						
Shops (Sanitary Provisions of Shops Acts)	382						
Fried Fish Shops	12						
Butchers' premises	66						
Bakehouses	2						
Rats and Mice	61						
Grocers	35						
Food Preparation Premises	14						
Licensed Premises	25						
Fishmongers and Poultry Dealers	19						
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	26						
Ice-Cream premises	77						
Slaughterhouses	863						
Market Stalls	226						
Restaurants	5						
Hawkers	17						
Visits to works in progress	35						
Verminous premises	16						
Visits regarding disinfestation prior to removal of tenants	399						
Infectious disease	111						
Accumulation of refuse	17						
Overcrowding	12						
Waste water closets and water closets	124						
Atmospheric pollution	1,306						
Number of Intimation Notices served	277						
Number of Intimation Notices complied with	155						
Number of Abatement Notices served	117						
Number of Abatement Notices complied with	63						

Table X

**PRINCIPAL IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED BY COMPLIANCE
WITH NOTICES.**

Dwelling Houses.

Internal

Wall and ceiling plaster or brickwork	..	..	..	26
Doors and window frames	..	..	..	38
Defective firegrates	..	..	..	4
Floors	..	..	..	7
Stairs	..	..	..	3
Dampness	..	..	..	1
Dirty conditions	..	..	..	1

External

Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Chimneys	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Eavesguttering and down spouting	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Fractured and defective brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pointing	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Paving	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Washing Accommodation

Washing boilers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Sanitary Accommodation

Insufficient or defective W.C's.	..	..	..	5
Dirty condition of W.C.'s	..	..	..	3
Defective cisterns	..	..	..	15

Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
----------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Food Premises—including Butchers, Grocers, Fried Fish Shops,
Bakehouses, Licensed Premises.

Internal

Dirty condition of rooms	5
Preparation table	1
Cloakroom accommodation	3
Floors	1
Doors and windows	1
Storage	2

Washing Accommodation

Absence of washing facilities	7
Absence of or defective water supply	2
“ Wash your hands ” notices	1

Sanitary Accommodation

Absence of or defective W.C.	1
Dirty condition of W.C.	1

Table XI

UNSOUND FOOD.

	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
71 tins Meat	3	2	3
45 tins and packets Fish		1	15
96 tins and packets Fruit and Vegetables		2	13 ³ / ₄
6 tins Milk and Cream			6
	4	2	9 ³ / ₄

Other foods condemned consisted of Chickens, Bacon, Sweets, Dried Milk, Ice-cream Powder, etc.

1 cwt. 3 qrs. 4³/₄ lbs.

Table XI—continued.

PARTICULARS OF CARCASSES INSPECTED, TOGETHER WITH PARTICULARS OF CARCASSES OR PARTS THEREOF
CONDEMNED, IN FORM REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	633	18	17	5,007	1,418
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	35	2	—	44	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with all diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	5.52%	11.1%	—	.87%	2.04%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.55%
Cysticercosis :					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Weight found to be diseased, unsound and unfit for human consumption :—

	C. Q. lbs.		
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS ..	6	0	17 $\frac{3}{4}$ Offal
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY	1	3	24 Offal
	8	0	13 $\frac{3}{4}$ TOTAL

Table XII.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES FOR THE METHYLENE BLUE TEST.

1961	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>
January	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	—	—	—
May	7	6	—	—	1
June	14	12	2	—	—
July	7	7	—	—	—
August	8	8	—	—	—
September	6	6	—	—	—
October	7	5	1	—	1
November	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—
Total	49	44	3	—	2
Taken in 1960 ..	98	90	3	4	1

No. of Ice-Cream premises registered for sale of Ice-Cream during 1961 4

No. of shops registered for the sale of Ice-Cream 130

REGISTRATION OF HAWKERS.

No. of Hawkers registered during 1961 under the Willenhall Urban District Council Act 2

Table XIII

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES.

Number of houses disinfected with Formalin or Formaldehyde 4

Number of houses sprayed with Insecticide to destroy vermin, including fleas, bugs, cockroaches, woodworm, mites, etc.

 Private 6

 Council 31

Articles disinfected and disinfested—bundles of bedding, etc. 118

Table XIV
SAMPLING BY FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY
(Staffordshire County Council)

List of samples taken during the year 1961 :—

Milk

T.T. (Pasteurised)	..	..	8
Pasteurised	..	..	6
Sterilised	..	..	8
			—
			22 All genuine
			—

General Foods

Number of samples taken	..	61
Number of samples genuine	..	58
Number of samples adulterated		3

Classification

Chest and Lung Tonic.	Pork Dripping (2 samples).
Compound Tablets of Codeine B.P.	Table Jelly—Lemon.
Cod Liver Oil with Malt Extract.	Bicarbonate of Soda.
Whole Protein Food.	Garden Mint in Vinegar.
Gees Linctus B.P.C.	Ice Cream.
Mineral & Vitamin Capsules.	Sweet Ground Almonds.
Blackcurrent Pastilles.	Instant Pudding.
White Embrocation B.P.C.	Cheese Spread.
Cough Remedy.	Minced Beef Loaf.
Cold Tablets.	Tea.
Menthol & Eucalyptus Pastilles.	Indian Brandee.
Vitamin Yeast Tablets.	Ravioli.
Blood Tonic Essence.	Salad Cream.
Coffee.	Cough Tablets.
Lemon Curd (2 samples).	Rhubarb in Syrup.
Sweet Pickle.	Pie Filling—Apple & Apricot.
Orange Squash.	Pickled Cabbage.
Pork Sausage containing Pre-	Shredded Beef Suet.
servative (4 samples).	Peanut Butter.

Lard (2 samples).	Almond Marzipan.
Corned Mutton.	Blackcurrant Cordial.
Ground Nutmegs.	Minced Beef and Onions.
Grated Parmesan Cheese.	Chicken Fillets.
Prunes in Rich Syrup.	Chocolate Cake covering.
Ham and Chicken.	Creamed Horseradish.
Orange Crush.	Corned Beef.
Non-Brewed Condiment.	Steak and Kidney Pies.
Strawberries in Heavy Syrup.	
Syrup Sponge Pudding.	

Particulars of Adulterated Samples.

2 C/J—Pork Dripping—Informal.

Has an acidity (as Oleic Acid) of 3.6% which is excessive.

Formal repeat sample genuine.

67 C/J—Minced Beef and Onions—Formal.

33.5% gravy and should have been sold under the description "Minced Beef with Onions and Gravy".

Labels amended to read "Minced Beef and Onions in Gravy".

68 C/J—Chicken Fillets—Formal.

Total meat content 75.9% whereas Chicken Fillets should contain not less than 95% of meat. Sample was therefore 20.1% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.

Labels amended to read "Chicken Fillets in Jelly".

Table XV

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Deposit Gauges situated in Market Place at rear of Gas Offices, in the grounds of Messrs. John Harper and Co. Ltd., Comprehensive School and at 19, Rugeley Avenue.

RECORDINGS FOR THE YEAR 1961.

Deposits in tons per square mile.

1961	John Harper & Co. Ltd., Clarkes Lane.		Market Place.		Comprehensive School.		19, Rugeley Avenue.	
	Insol.	Sol.	Insol.	Totals	Insol.	Sol.	Insol.	Totals
January ..	4.36	11.16	5.36	17.79	6.29	6.0	5.2	12.29
February ..	5.55	11.20	8.63	19.11	4.17	6.33	5.97	10.50
March ..	7.15	6.87	14.49	19.85	8.88	3.54	6.14	12.42
April ..	4.90	13.41	6.10	22.47	5.56	6.96	8.20	12.52
May ..	11.47	6.23	3.81	12.0	5.47	2.58	10.37	8.05
June ..	4.02	14.59	10.92	14.42	7.42	3.71	10.71	11.13
July ..	3.33	12.15	3.84	14.79	8.15	6.36	10.37	14.51
August ..	2.76	4.76	5.69	10.78	5.66	4.21	8.93	9.87
September ..	1.74	8.17	6.84	22.61	4.07	4.04	8.15	8.11
October ..	2.62	7.49	8.02	18.33	7.06	9.37	5.67	16.43
November ..	5.38	6.47	6.37	12.64	4.40	10.16	7.68	14.56
December ..	4.29	4.80	4.01	12.10	—	—	2.68	—
								7.77

Table XVI

SULPHUR POLLUTION.

Lead Peroxide Gauges. Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrams per 100 sq. cm. per day.

1961.	Cemetery, Walsall Road	Memorial Park	126, Dilloways Lane	179, St. Anne's Road	66, Broad Lane	Lodge Farm, Short Heath	Ravens- croft, Lodge Street	145, Pooles Lane	J. Harper & Co. Ltd. Clarkes Lane	204, Lich- field Road	Compre- hensive School
January	1.93	2.04	2.13	1.81	1.25	2.8	1.15	1.47	1.55	1.56	3.35
February	2.55	2.08	1.74	1.72	.88	2.55	.93	1.23	1.48	1.23	2.56
March	1.07	1.16	1.43	1.37	.98	1.73	.82	1.06	1.24	.87	1.84
April	1.33	1.44	1.25	1.26	.71	1.47	.68	.89	.88	.84	2.16
May	.60	.85	.88	1.00	.58	1.11	.60	.69	.70	.59	1.56
June	.39	.54	.56	.61	.31	.64	.38	.45	.42	.26	.89
July	.27	.30	.24	.44	.27	.37	.33	.32	.22	.17	.70
August	.41	.54	.31	.5	.3	.45	.51	.5	.39	.3	1.05
September	.86	.8	.74	.82	.41	.65	.51	.51	.67	.43	1.37
October	1.40	.93	1.18	1.24	.6	1.35	.8	.86	.82	.93	2.32
November	2.1	1.71	1.67	1.36	1.19	2.29	1.19	1.44	1.14	1.27	3.33
December	3.06	1.86	2.06	2.04	1.86	3.05	1.42	2.54	1.36	2.14	3.3

TOTAL OF DAILY AVERAGES FOR EACH STATION FOR YEARS 1950—1961. Total for all Stations

1950	15.561	21.799	17.638	28.131	15.618	18.415	14.371	13.033	22.807		167.373
1951	14.27	27.85	15.03	24.02	11.665	16.15	12.231	13.571	18.18		152.967
1952	12.068	26.24	13.442	23.71	10.036	14.81	10.896	10.618	15.86		137.680
1953	15.67	29.75	16.36	18.78	12.23	15.80	12.20	13.67	15.57		150.03
1954	16.70	19.40	17.59	18.03	12.67	17.52	12.35	12.71	15.82		142.79
1955	19.05	18.92	15.79	19.18	13.64	17.13	10.97	12.35	13.0	6.26	146.29
1956	20.76	20.36	18.79	20.57	15.43	19.93	12.65	14.77	11.54	12.35	167.15
1957	21.22	16.94	16.86	19.62	13.75	19.52	11.45	14.11	12.04	11.51	157.02
1958	17.61	18.80	16.35	16.94	13.77	20.46	11.43	13.50	11.85	12.55	153.26
1959	18.86	20.16	16.95	15.22	13.04	22.73	10.44	12.24	12.56	12.42	154.62
1960	16.59	18.17	14.39	14.38	11.27	19.40	9.78	11.48	10.55	9.80	162.37
1961	15.97	14.25	14.19	14.17	9.34	18.46	9.32	11.96	10.87	10.59	153.55

Table XVII

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1961.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Agricul- tural
	Local Author- ity	Dwelling Houses	All other (includ- ing business premises)	Total	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ..	10	10,197	1,000	11,207	5
2. Number of properties in- spected	4	424	178	606	5
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ..	42	1,337	474	1,853	5
4. Number of properties inspec- ted which were found to be infested with :					
Rats.. .. .	2	128	22	152	—
Mice.. .. .	2	43	16	61	—
5. Number of infested proper- ties treated by Local Author- ity	4	171	38	213	—
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ..	11	214	84	309	—
7. Number of notices served under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of notice ..	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of " block " control schemes carried out ..	—	—	—	—	—

River Tame

Number of visits	44
Number of pre-baits laid	1,198
Number of poison baits laid	355

